

FEBRUARY, 1927

*Official Magazine*  
**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD  
TEAMSTERS - CHAUFFEURS  
STABLEMEN & HELPERS  
of AMERICA**





I AM REQUESTING all local unions to send election blanks in to the General Office, regardless of whether they are old or new officers, and add to the bottom of the election blank the days of the month that they meet and the street and number of their meeting hall, which will be very helpful to all.

Local union trustees should see that the secretary-treasurer is bonded, and that the books of the local union are audited monthly. All local unions have been sent election blanks by General Secretary Thomas L. Hughes.

I wish to call the attention of secretary-treasurers and officers to page 50 of the Constitution of our International Union, Section 118, and I wish to remind and ask the officers of all local unions affiliated with our International Union, and the secretary-treasurers, to follow out the instructions in Section 118 of the Constitution. It will be helpful alike to the General Office, to the local union and its members, the General Auditor and his assistant.

I want to call the attention of the local unions and secretaries and officers to page 38 of the Constitution, also page 39, pertaining to the transfer card, Section 86; there have been some violations pertaining to this particular section and I have found where some of the secretaries didn't take the time to carry out this particular section; also Section 87 pertaining to the withdrawal card, which has been neglected in some instances. I intend to enforce these two sections more rigidly in the future. Local secretaries must keep the transfer cards that are deposited with them on file, also the withdrawal cards, so that when an audit is made the books of the local union can be checked and the record will be there pertaining to these two sections of the Constitution.

Also, local secretary-treasurers should have an application for every applicant to be initiated or who has been initiated and they should be kept on file so they can be checked with the ledger.

I wish to call to the attention of the officers, ESPECIALLY the secretary-treasurers of all local unions, that the per capita tax must be paid in advance, based on previous month's collections. This should be done every month without fail. If this part of Section 118 is carried out, and the membership is reported, it will be helpful to all, the General Office, the local union and the entire membership.

On page 31, Sec. 65, of our Constitution, that section must be carried out according to our Constitution in every respect, for the protection of the membership as a whole, and for the protection of the local unions and the International Union. I am merely calling this to the attention of all officers and members of local unions, so there will be no misunderstanding and they may live up to the Constitution as adopted at the Seattle Convention of the International Union on September 19, 1925.

I, as General Auditor, am merely calling the above sections to the attention of officers of locals, and the membership thereof, affiliated with our International Union.

While a great majority of our locals are complying with the Constitution, I have found that some of the local officers are overlooking and sometimes do not understand the importance of the above, and I

(Continued on back cover)



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# INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS, CHAUFFEURS STABLEMEN AND HELPERS

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## *Meeting of the General Executive Board, Indianapolis, Indiana, January 4-8, 1927*

THE General Executive Board met  
in Indianapolis, January 4, 1927, with  
all members present.

Brother Kerrigan and Brother  
Reilly, representatives of Local Union  
No. 727, appeared before the board  
and made a detailed statement rela-  
tive to the strike in the Bauer Taxi-  
cab Company, explaining the fact that  
the agreement existing between the  
company and the local union was vio-  
lated. It involved 500 men and prac-  
tically meant the very existence of  
the local union in Chicago. It was a  
deliberate violation of the agreement.  
The International had unanimously  
endorsed the strike as the local had  
submitted the entire matter to the  
General Executive Board.

Considerable money was spent by  
Local No. 727, and other locals in  
Chicago, in an effort to win the strike  
and the General Executive Board be-  
lieving that the local had made every  
effort possible to win the strike do-  
nated the sum of \$9,000 to reimburse  
them for the money spent in their  
struggle to maintain their existing  
agreement and preserve the life of  
their local.

It was further understood and  
agreed that the International Union,  
in the future, would not pay out  
moneys of any kind, except strike  
benefits, to local unions when the local  
had money in its own treasury to take  
care of debts incurred.



In the case of the local union mentioned above it was considerably in debt for expenses resulting from the strike. It was also further understood that in no case would any financial aid be given except where the strike had been endorsed by the International, and even then, it would be necessary for locals to consult with the International executives and they, in turn, would submit the matter to the General Executive Board as to whether or not the International Union would render help to local unions having no finances and engaged in a conflict similar to the one described above.

Brother Matthew Woll, a representative of the American Federation of Labor and president of The Union Labor Life Insurance Company, with headquarters in Washington, addressed the General Executive Board at considerable length explaining the objects of this company—entirely owned by trade unions—many of the International Unions having large amounts of stock in this institution. He told how necessary it was to the workers of our country to have an insurance company of this kind and finally asked the International Union to purchase some stock in this company, stating further that although they had the required amount of capital, they would like to have the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers, with the other fifty International Unions, participating in this institution.

The General Executive Board, after considerable discussion, decided that under the laws of our International we were not empowered to purchase stock or bonds of any kind except national, state or municipal bonds; that while we regreted our inability to participate in this company, as an owner of stock, we believed the Labor Life Insurance Company had a great future and an opportunity for doing splendid work for Labor.

Mr. Holloway, representing the People's Legislative Service, appeared before the board and made an appeal that we affiliate with this Service, which is doing splendid work amongst progressive legislatures, especially for the railroad organizations from a statistical standpoint. The General Executive Board did not take any action as to our International affiliating with this institution although the board decided there was ample need for such service and that some time later on it might be necessary for use to affiliate in order that we might be provided with such statistics as would be useful to us when presenting wage agreements and making arguments before large groups of employers and before arbitration boards such as now obtains under the Watson-Parker Bill dealing with express employees.

On the request of President Green of the American Federation of Labor, embodying the action of the American Federation of Labor convention on the Workers' Educational Bureau, the International Executive Board appropriated the sum of \$250.00.

Brother John O'Brien, representing Local Union No. 710, Packing House Drivers of Chicago, appeared before the board, making the statement that there are a number of trucks hauling live stock into the stock yards in Chicago, whose drivers are not members of any union; that these trucks come a distance of from 15 to 20 miles, passing through territory in which are located other local unions and that no attempt has been made to organize them. He claims all trucks of every description working in and around the stock yards are organized and he requested, and so stated, that if given jurisdiction over this class of workers, it will be possible for him, with the assistance of the other business agents in Chicago, to organize them and perhaps better their conditions.

The General Executive Board instructed the General President to no-



tify the representatives of Local Unions Nos. 721, 742, 801 and 673 to appear before the board on this matter. The representatives of three of these local unions appeared before the board and after the matter was discussed from every angle, these men stated they had no objections to the board, if they saw fit, granting this jurisdiction to Local No. 710, as it was the only local union that could bring about the desired result in this case. Brother Cupp, representing Local No. 673, sent a telegram advising that it was impossible for him to attend the meeting before the General Executive Board and stated, in behalf of his local union, there were no objections to relinquishing jurisdiction over this class of work to Local No. 710.

The General Executive Board after fully discussing the matter in executive session and after hearing from Brother Neer, President of the Joint Council of Chicago, decided we were in absolute sympathy with the request made by Local Union No. 710 but that it was within the province and the duty of the Joint Council of Chicago and vicinity to act on this jurisdiction request, and further advised, that the Joint Council take the matter up as soon as possible and render a decision.

Mr. James Lynch and Mr. Harry Calkins came before the Board to explain that they had founded a Publicity Bureau through which they proposed to render service to all National and International Unions that they could obtain as clients by placing before the Public, from a publicity standpoint, all of the good things that Labor is doing. The Board members, in conjunction with Mr. Lynch and his associate, Mr. Calkins, discussed the matter for nearly two hours.

The question of using this publicity service was submitted to the Board about a month ago through correspondence and in view of the fact that the Board had already approved same no action was taken at this meeting;

that the previous action of the Board on this publicity arrangement for a period of six months, should stand and if at the end of that time it is the judgment of the Executive Board that this service has benefitted the International, that it be continued for another period of six months. The expense of this service is to be about \$833.00 a month. The idea and intent of this publicity work is that articles written in a scientific way, by accomplished newspaper writers, shall set forth some of the things that our International Union has been helpful in doing to benefit the rank and file of our membership, and the movement at large, because it is stated that only the so-called bad things which Labor is supposed to be guilty of is published under the present system.

The General President introduced a resolution relative to the appointment of organizers. The board unanimously adopted the resolution, which, in substance, was:

That the General President, with the consent of a majority of the General Executive Board, shall have power to appoint organizers whenever, in his judgment, the necessity for an organizer obtains. This resolution also regulates the salary to be paid newly appointed and special organizers.

The General President read a telegram received from Secretary Nealey of Local No. 42, Lynn, Mass., in which he stated that the strike approved by the General Executive Board had not taken place and both parties had agreed to submit the matter to the Massachusetts State Board of Arbitration.

The General President made a general statement to the board as to the financial and numerical strength of the International and our gains and losses during the past year. The statement showed that we had a total gain during the year of about \$132,864.00, the funds of the International now amounting to \$1,495,733.68. This



is a substantial gain in view of the fact that during the year we had many expenses although, in general, the serious controversies which might have necessitated the expenditure of large sums of money were settled without expense to the General Office. The average membership for the year January 1, 1926, to January 1, 1917, was 83,670 each month. The records further show that there were more charters surrendered by local unions going out of business than there were charters issued by the International although we have gained in membership. This is not encouraging although there is not anything to be discouraged about either, as in most instances the charters surrendered were in isolated districts or in villages where unemployment prevailed extensively and a forceful labor movement did not exist.

On a communication received from President Green of the American Federation of Labor, making a request for further donations in behalf of the striking cloakmakers of New York, the General Executive Board appropriated \$500.00. Also on his request for further assistance to the United Textile Workers on account of the many strikes which have surrounded that organization, depleting its treasury, the General Executive Board appropriated \$500.00; this making a total of \$1,000.00 donated by our International to each organization since the adjournment of the convention of the American Federation of Labor in October, 1926.

Communications coming from Locals Nos. 617 and 560 were received by the General President and read to the board, in which it was stated that considerable misunderstanding prevailed in that district owing to rumors circulated there against the representatives of those two local unions, the communications further stating that it was believed Vice-President Hart was somewhat responsible for

some of the unfounded insinuations going around in that district.

It was also stated in the communication from Local No. 617 that Local No. 641 had not carried out the decision rendered by the General Executive Board at its meeting in January, 1926, which had to do with the transfer of city drivers holding membership in Local No. 641. On this latter statement Brother Hart emphatically denied that he had not carried out the decision of the board and stated plainly that his books would show that he had not been receiving dues from any of the drivers in question. In other words, that he had scrupulously observed the decision and was willing to submit his books as proof to Vice-President Cashal, or any other duly authorized representative of the International Union. He further stated that it was impossible for him to compel the individuals in question to transfer or become members of the other local union.

In reference to the foregoing statements that insinuations detrimental to the representatives of Local No. 560 and Local No. 617 were made by him, Brother Hart most emphatically stated he had never made any statements of that character and was not responsible for rumors circulating in the district and in answer to questions put to him, he said, he believed both representatives were working for the best interests of their local unions and that he did not know anything of a dishonest nature about either of the parties in question.

The General President made a lengthy statement outlining the history of the organization in Hudson County, New Jersey, dwelling on the able work of each individual, the splendid unions they have built up and the wonderful conditions they have obtained for their membership and finally bringing before them what has happened in other districts where discontent prevailed and advised those men to return to their respec-



tive cities and in the interest of the trade union movement, and our organization in particular, to endeavor to set aside all imaginary grievances and personal feelings that might obtain and in the future co-operate, each man helping the other in line with our obligation to the end that each may be helpful to the other and thereby raise the standard and uphold the dignity of Labor in the State of New Jersey.

Communication from Local Union No. 613, Cleaning & Dye House Drivers of New York, who are in arrears to the International to the extent of about one year's per capita tax asking that said back tax be eliminated and that they be placed in good standing on the payment of one month's dues, beginning January 1, 1927; claiming they were behind in their tax because they have had a great deal of trouble with their employers, the International Executive Board decided that the International could not grant their request that their arrearage be eliminated and the General Secretary-Treasurer was instructed to notify them that they must comply with the Constitution by paying up all arrearage.

The General Executive Board instructed the General Officers to make a deposit of \$100,000 in the Federation Bank and Trust Company of New York.

The General Executive Board also decided to withdraw the funds now on deposit with the Fletcher American National Bank and to also take \$50,000.00 from the 2 per cent checking account and place it at a higher rate of interest in the Federation Bank and Trust Company of New York.

On the matter before the board between Locals Nos. 617, 560 and Brother Hart at a later meeting of Vice-President Hart, Brother Buckley and Brother Conlon, at which were also present J. M. Gillespie and Ed Meyer, the entire situation pertaining

to Hudson County was discussed and it was agreed by the representatives from Jersey City that they would return to Jersey City and work in harmony and co-operation in order that the best interests of our Labor Movement might be served.

Communication from Alton, Illinois, relative to some trouble there was referred to Vice-President Murphy who is to make an investigation, and after he reports and makes a recommendation the General Office will endeavor to carry out his recommendation.

Relative to the communication from Stockton, California, Local Union No. 22, asking that an organizer be sent there to help in organizing some members of our craft, this communication was read to the board, and the action of the board was that the subject matter be referred to Vice-President Casey.

The board referred the matter of making an effort to organize Indianapolis to the General President and the General Secretary-Treasurer.

Brother Hart brought up the matter of the election in Local Union No. 641 in which some disturbance obtained. In view of the fact that all of the ballots were not counted, it was decided that the election was illegal and another election would have to be held.

Vice-President Geary reported on conditions surrounding the Milk Wagon Drivers Union in Minneapolis and described a price war now going on. The General Executive Board decided that we could not interfere in the regulation of prices by the distributors of milk. Vice-President Geary further asked for advice or a decision on the matter of organizations such as the Goodfellowship Club obtaining within the employment of some of the dairies in Minneapolis. The General President stated that he had already rendered a decision, after making an investigation, that it was absolutely illegal and contrary to the laws of our international and the wel-



fare of our general movement to have any organization existing within our organization, whether it be a good-fellowship club, or anything else of this kind; that such organizations detract from the intent and purpose of the union and that the benefits obtaining in these so-called social or good-fellowship clubs may be obtained by payment of the same amount to the local union. The General Executive Board confirmed the action of the General President on this matter and instructed him to write the local unions along this line.

There being no further business for its consideration or action the General Executive Board meeting was adjourned, subject to call to the next meeting by the General President and Secretary.

### *Building Employers and 5-Day Week*

The National Association of Building Trades Employers recently resolved to oppose the five-day week "as a patriotic as well as an economic duty." The first reason assigned for this opposition is the seasonable character of the building industry. This argument ignores the progress that has been made in making construction an all-year industry which demonstrates that the seasonable quality can be largely eliminated. In his annual report, Secretary Hoover says:

"The annually enlarged building program of the country has been handled in large part by extension of the building season into the winter months; this has had a stabilizing effect upon prices and given increasing annual earnings to workers. The price of most building materials has, in fact, decreased despite the large increased demand."

The second part of the resolution maintains that the five-day week would substantially increase construction costs. This is the inevitable ar-

gument which inflexible employers always raise against every change. It ignores the fact that labor costs are only one item in construction costs. The construction industry has found it possible generally to reduce the 48-hour week to the 44-hour week. The overhead for the Saturday half-day is proportionately high in comparison with the work that can be done. Where it is at all possible management can benefit by the five-day week. The work performed by different crafts makes the five-day week much more immediately practical for some than others. By better planning, supplying of materials and tools and machinery and by securing the co-operation of the workers, management may make it possible for craftsmen to make their efforts more telling.

The resolution ends with a lament that "idle time" will induce extravagance and result in demands for new wage increases. Why should leisure for wage earners be stigmatized "idle time" any more than the week-ends of those paid in salaries and profits? Why should higher standards of living be regarded as extravagance by the building trades employers? Without higher standards of living and accompanying higher wages, how would our increased productivity be absorbed? Our industrial organization rests upon the principle that high wages are compatible with low production costs. Labor thinks the construction industry should frankly face the problem of doing its part toward social progress. Labor is confident that the financial difficulties involved could readily be met if the construction industry finds more economical ways of financing.

Labor is not making the immediate introduction of the five-day week an issue in any industry. It asks each industry and each employer to consider this new standard, to determine what are the obstacles to the five-day week under present conditions, and to accept the co-operation of trade



unions in removing such obstacles. How can the rejection of this proposal be either a patriotic or economic duty?—By William Green.

### *Business Growth vs. Personal Growth*

How can I achieve success? What must I do to be successful in my business or profession? This is the cry of man today, everywhere. Here's a better question, Am I fit to succeed? If I win success, will I so conduct myself and my affairs that I will truly deserve it? It isn't enough to merely succeed in your chosen effort. Prepare yourself now to be worthy of the laurels you win. The really big man is able to rise above success—to lead a useful life in spite of material blessings.

### *Oppose Long Work Day in Textile Industry*

Boston.—In his inaugural address Governor Fuller expressed disapproval of a longer work day in the textile industry. Employers are asking the Legislature to permit them to work women and children employees more hours, because of southern competition.

Organized workers suggest that if these employers used some of their excessive profits to buy up-to-date machinery, instead of handing rich returns to stockholders, they could compete with the South.—News Letter.

### *The Milkman*

Who is it plods the lonely street,  
Braves nightly peril, snow and sleet,  
That we may call our breakfast  
sweet?

*The Milkman.*

Who, while we dream of pastures fair,  
Gropes up the back apartment stair

With pasture-joys—and leaves them  
there?

*The Milkman.*

Who is it, as he goes his way,  
Up four long flights, finds notes that  
say:

"Yes, we don't want no milk today?"

*The Milkman.*

Who is it must forgive our whim  
When, with his lantern burning dim,  
We think him burglar, shoot at him?

*The Milkman.*

Who is it that must wear a smile  
When, in his path, the children pile  
Old paving brick or building tile?

*The Milkman.*

Who is it in the sombre night,  
Emerges with a strange dog's bite—  
Must save his bottles in his flight?

*The Milkman.*

Who is it that must humbly grin  
When, at the door, his bill goes in?  
Who hears it said: "Come back  
ag'in!"

*The Milkman.*

Who is it that must sleep by day;  
While others rest, be on his way?  
Who seldom gets a chance to play?

*The Milkman.*

Who is it that his own child knows  
As some strange man who comes and  
goes?

Who is that strange man, you suppose?

*The Milkman.*

Who is it all the babies know  
Will be there, sunshine, rain or snow?  
Who joys to see the babies grow?

*The Milkman.*

Who is it strives so hard to be  
A faithful friend to you and me?  
Who answers Man's first waking  
plea?

*The Milkman.*

—By William Herschell.



# EDITORIAL

(By Daniel J. Tobin)

BOTH SICK AND DEATH BENEFITS exist in many of our local unions; some have just the death benefit, and it has proven a source of much controversy between unions and families. This article is being written to try and eliminate a lot of misunderstanding on the part of those involved.

We hope to see the time when all unions will have these benefits, for it is a very easy form of insurance. To some members it means a great deal and is always given consideration; to others, it is only given a thought when they get sick and are in arrears for dues. In the case of death, a man's family often shows an interest for the first time during his membership, and they always expect to collect irrespective of whether he is paid up or not.

Every so often we hear of a case where a member died and the union would not pay the benefit; no one seems to take the trouble to find out why. The executive board of the local has any number of death benefits to handle each year, and is the elected body to settle all questions pertaining thereto. If a man's family is in doubt on any point, all they have to do is call up the union and say that they should like to appear before the board. The time and place of meeting will be given and every courtesy extended to the deceased brother's relatives.

Families should not take the word of some irresponsible member that they are entitled to benefits without first making inquiry themselves. It has been our experience to find that after a member of this variety has done a lot of talking he could not back up, and has found out that the deceased was very much in arrears, he will make a motion on the floor of the union—in order to set himself right with the family—to pay the benefits anyway. It will cover him and not be any particular expense of a personal nature.

Talk is the cheapest thing in the world; but it is action that brings in the money. After a dead brother's associates (it would not be right to call them his friends) have said any number of unkind things about the union because a death benefit was not forthcoming, usually the unpleasant task is up to a local officer to inform the family that his dues had not been paid in six months or more; that the local must live up—in fairness to its membership—to the Constitution and by-laws, which specifically state that no member is entitled to benefits unless his dues are paid up.

To give an organization a black mark by no-account talk surely is resented by the brother in the Great Beyond who has not done the right thing while here. Occasionally, the circumstances are a little different and the union is always willing to try and right a difficult situation. In the case of a man being sick for a long time and hardly able to talk, his wife not knowing of a benefit will allow the dues to get in arrears. Any number of similar cases might be cited.

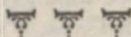
It is the duty of every member entitled to benefits to keep his family informed about such matters, so that if he is delinquent for any reason they can take steps to protect themselves and keep the dues paid up. Rather be able to say to those left behind: "Yes, you are entitled to the benefit and the check will be given to you just as soon as the executive board meets." It is so much easier to do it this way than for the board to tell the wife, mother or sister that the brother did not take care of his



dues when alive. None of us has a guarantee on health or life, so that we should have things properly settled before we die, as it does away with a great deal of bitter feeling and inconvenience to those we love afterwards.

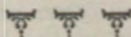
Practically all unions with death benefits allow a much longer time for the payment of dues in order to keep their members in good standing. As you know most insurance companies consider premium policies lapsed in four weeks. Why people should think when they appear before executive boards of local unions that the laws should be broken in their particular case is beyond all comprehension, and they often go out saying that the union and officers are "no good." These same folk would not dream of expecting an insurance company to allow them to collect if the policy had lapsed. Where is their sense of fairness?

Since this journal goes into the homes of our membership monthly, we trust this will be read not only by the men of the family but also by the women, and that it will sink deep into the minds of all to avoid anything of so unpleasant a nature happening to them. Keep dues paid up while you are alive and the benefits will be properly taken care of after you are dead. Take notice!



**D**URING THE SUMMER MONTHS of each year we seem to have some little difficulty with employers about hiring young men who are on vacation from school or college. These young chaps, many of them without much money, are anxious to do something to get ready cash. It is not a bad idea for them to seek employment and many times they are kept out of trouble by being busy. We have no objection to that and want to help any man's son as we should like to have our own looked after. But, we find some employers who want to help them and incidentally themselves by trying to hire these young men—who are not familiar with the union—under the regular wage scale; right there is where we have the kick coming. In the first place, our men are entitled to all the regular work and must have it; then, when these outside men are hired for the extra work, they must be paid the prevailing rate of wages in that vicinity, and when there is no work take the first lay-off. See to it that your officers are informed of any newcomers of this kind.

Although it is cold weather now, summer is not far off, so it is not too early to be on the watch, especially in those places where it has been tried before.



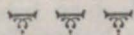
**R**ECENTLY, in the western part of Massachusetts, a truckman who operates over the road with a fleet of trucks, posted a notice to the effect that in the future no advance money or check would be given to the chauffeurs to buy food, and that they would have to use their own and could take it or leave it. The men refused to do this and put their trucks in the garage. About midnight another member of the firm tried to get the men to start work, but offered less money than previously received; this the men accepted and went out on their trip. It is needless to say that this firm is a non-union one, trying, as most of them do, to put one more over on the men in their employ, and they did get away with some of it.

If these men were organized, as they should be, and their agreement called for road expenses, the chance to cut them down would have been



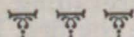
very slight, for there would be a business agent to represent them and maintain conditions. Getting out of paying dues seems to be the reason many chauffeurs do not join our ranks; but through shortsightedness they give to their employer many times the amount of the dues in one way or another that rightfully belongs to them as a worker.

There is so much hauling over the road by trucks at the present time that it is something for our membership to consider from every angle. Many of these men are not organized, and we want to keep them before you through the journal until they are. Our individual members come in contact with them. Make it your aim to point out to these teamsters and chauffeurs the advantages of being within our organization and a real part of our International Union. This would make flourishing the local union in your city or town, and enhance your own chances for more pay too by being thoroughly organized. Co-operate with your officers and help bring these road men into line with us.



WITH THE HEAT OF THE SUMMER comes a desire to all for a vacation—out where there is plenty of water and green to enjoy. In the last twenty years many more of the working class are finding it possible to get away for a week or two each year. This has come about largely through organization bringing about better wages and conditions. Even among unorganized groups vacations are often given to keep them from organizing and asking more wages, so that indirectly they benefit from the dues-paying trade unionists.

Nevertheless, there is much work to be done to get vacations for all. As you go through the congested parts of any city and see the little children lying around in hot doorways or on fire-escapes, many of them too far away from a city park to get much out of it, you feel as though you would like to take every "hard-boiled," rich boss down there and say: "Give that father enough wages to take himself, wife and children away for at least two weeks in the country, from all this, and let them have just a little of what your family has the whole summer."



SELF PRESERVATION, we are told, is the first law of nature, and the right to live as well as one can afford to do is conceded to all. There are those though who think the world and what it has to offer was meant only for them, and they proceed to give no other competitor a chance if it is possible to prevent it. This happened at the hearing on Senate Bill No. 1734 "to regulate interstate commerce by motor vehicles operating as common carriers on the public highways."

A team owner appeared before the Senate Committee in favor of the bill which our International Union and a number of team owners' associations were there to oppose. This man admitted that his firm started doing business over the road with only four hundred dollars capital, but had reached the five hundred thousand dollar mark in equipment. We have no objection to any concern making good, and want them to, for it means more work for our members; if the business is carried on honestly and good wages paid to the workers there is much to admire. But, in this particular instance, though this man was sitting on top of the world, so to speak, he was trying—and stated so quite frankly—to have put on

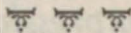


the statute books a law that would protect him from having anyone else get any of the business that was being carried on over the road in his locality; that isn't self preservation but out and out selfishness.

The senators on the committee, as well as all those who were present, rather enjoyed listening to this man set forth his sole right to the business. Although he was really being laughed at, he was egotist enough to think that he made a hit.

We took it upon ourselves to look up this man's firm and found that no union men were employed, nor did the company belong to any association of truckmen. It is quite safe to venture to say that overtime is never paid to any extent by that concern and conditions such as organized men enjoy do not exist. It will not be long, however, before their employees will learn how rich they are and an effort made to wake them up to organize; then, they will seek that which has been denied them so long in order to bring some comfort and sunshine into their own lives and homes.

Hearings on this bill were held in different parts of the country, but very few truckmen paid any attention to it, and while no report has been made on it yet, we may expect one almost any time.



**R**AILROADS AND STREET RAILWAY COMPANIES are never slow when it comes to looking after any form of legislation affecting their business, whether national, state or municipal. They are always on the job and follow up every bill in which they may be directly or indirectly interested. This was very evident in their attentive presence on Senate Bill No. 1734, mentioned in another article, to regulate motor vehicles operating as common carriers. They were there in large numbers, and one could not help thinking, as he took it all in, of the little it seemed to matter to many team and truck owners.

There are in all probability thousands of truck owners who are not affiliated with any association to look after their interests; they will not join anything nor pay even to protect their own business. These will howl the loudest if the bill is passed and feel that something has been put over. It is safe to say, if the next Congress passes this bill, now before them, about two-thirds of the truckmen doing business of an interstate character will be out of at least that part of the business.

Judging from those behind the bill, it is quite obvious that they are not working in the interest of the master truckmen or the chauffeurs he employs. The time has come for trucking concerns who employ no union men or belong to no organization of their own to come out of their slumber; if for no one else, they ought to get busy in their own behalf.

This same class of boss will listen all night to a merchants' committee or Chamber of Commerce group telling them not to pay higher wages to their men and to be sure they are non-union, and they will give the time to eat that up as though it were really good for them. To every man, in business and organization alike, if you do not look out for yourself, you have no complaint if you find yourself on the outside looking in; that has been the law of all time. The railroads are wide awake when it comes to taking over the business of anyone they can, and many truckmen will find theirs in similar hands unless they wake up.

This bill has not been reported out of committee as yet and may not be during this short session of Congress, but a new bill has been put in from the House to take care of busses running interstate. We are opposed also to that bill.

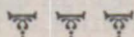


GENERAL SECRETARY-TREASURER, Thomas L. Hughes, lost his oldest brother, William H. Hughes, who was injured by falling from his truck, his death resulting about a week later.

The late Brother Hughes had been a member of the Teamsters' Union continuously for thirty-two years, first joining old Local No. 1 of Chicago in 1894 during the A. R. U. strike, which later became known as Local Union No. 5, and at the amalgamation in 1903 was changed to Local No. 705, which is one of our largest and most successful unions in that city.

Brother Hughes had the record of holding the oldest card in the union. He was the kind of brother member we are all sorry to see pass on. The funeral was attended by all the officers of the Chicago Teamsters' Unions and other friends. Many floral offerings were sent as a tribute to his worthiness and as a staunch member of his union.

To our General Secretary-Treasurer, Thomas L. Hughes, his sister and brothers, we extend our sincere sympathy.



## *A Glimpse of the Impressions Made Upon Me While Traveling Through Europe*

(Continued from last month)

WE LEFT VIENNA at seven o'clock in the morning and arrived at Berlin, a distance of about six hundred miles, at ten o'clock that night. We went through the city of Prague, the capital of Czecho-Slovakia, which before the war was a part of Austria. Here we saw something that would tickle the hearts of many of our members—girls with trays laden with large steins of Pilsener beer, drawn from the wood, passing from car to car selling the beer at five cents a stein. At the station was an open bar, not very heavily patronized, but still doing some business. The girls with the trays did quite a business, having to return several times to replenish their trays.

The city of Prague is one of the principal industrial cities in this part of Europe. Factory buildings are to be seen everywhere and the surrounding country seems to be prosperous. The large fields under tillage speak for the prosperity and thrift of the natives.

We enter Berlin and although it is late in the evening, the city seems to be full of life, enthusiasm and business. The Hotel Adlon, at which we put up, is perhaps one of the most beautiful and well-managed hotels in Europe, with its spacious lobby and large, beautifully furnished lounging rooms. The rooms upstairs have modern bathrooms and everything is as up-to-date as any of the hotels in New York. The manager of the hotel told me that nothing of importance in the line of improvements had been done in the hotel since 1914, before the war, so I can imagine what this beautiful structure must have been eleven years ago.

Next day we went over the city sightseeing, visiting the Royal Palace, the Kaiser Friedrich Gallery, with its international paintings, the Brandenburger Gate, the Avenue of Victory, through the Palace of Charlottenburg and the Mausoleum of the late Queen Louise.

Berlin is a wonderful city. I had no idea that it was anywhere near as beautiful as it is. To me it is the most beautiful city in Europe. Rome, London, Paris—none of them compare with this city. The avenues and



streets are wide and the sidewalks are as wide as those in State Street, Chicago. Cleanliness obtains everywhere. Large trees with heavy foliage line the beautiful thoroughfares. The shops and stores are as modern and up-to-date as they are in New York City. The people seem contented and everyone seems to be working.

Germany, in my judgment, is going to be the most prosperous and largest industrial country in Europe. Instead of crying over their defeat in the war they have gone to work and, although wages are not as high as they were before that time, the German has the faculty of making ends meet. Of course, Germany had the advantage of other countries, as there was not any fighting within that country. Unquestionably their suffering was intense. They paid an enormous price, are still paying, and must pay, a big price for bringing on the war. However, the Germans have made up their minds to take their medicine, while in Austria they sit whining and bemoaning their fate, which, of course, is not helping the situation. It is true, the Austrians lost a great deal of their territory. Some of the best states within the country were taken from them, while Germany lost practically nothing which rightfully belonged to it, except its foreign possessions.

In talking with a German business man in the lobby of the hotel, our conversation, as all conversations eventually do, led up to the war and I said to him, "It does not seem to me that Germany has suffered as much as some of the countries that were the victors in the war." "Ah," he said, "you are mistaken. We have suffered. Our middle class was entirely wiped out financially as the government abolished all of its indebtedness to its own people." "Well," I said, "I just arrived from Vienna and there is nothing but poverty and misery obtaining there. Old Austria has lost all of its foreign possessions and is now without any raw materials." He answered, "We have lost some territory in which we had raw material that we need very much. We lost Alsace-Lorraine where we got our iron ore." I answered, "Yes, you lost Alsace-Lorraine, but it wasn't yours rightfully. You conquered France and took Alsace-Lorraine by force of arms in 1870, under the leadership of Bismarck. The Alsations are not Teutons." He said, "Yes, that is true, but what did we amount to as an empire before 1870?" I merely mention this to give you an idea as to how the German people feel and, of course, it is needless for me to say to you that everyone in Germany, as well as others with whom I have come in contact in the so-called neutral nations, all believe that America should have kept out of the war. The people of Germany hate and despise war as much as we do in our country. They followed their leaders, as we would have done had we lived there, and as we did in our country. The stories they heard and the information they obtained from the press all pictured the situation in this way: That England, France and other nations being jealous of the great prosperity and achievements of Germany, brought about the war and bluffed the Americans into entering the war because they wanted to obtain the markets of the world, which Germany, because of its better business ability and through its greater inventive genius, had won. Naturally the masses of the working people believed their governmental leaders. Those who had the courage to object and refused to believe—and there were a few—were simply set aside. Today they have awakened to a realization of the fact that the war could have been prevented, because the German people are not dullards.

It was my privilege to be a visitor with some of the Labor members in the Reichstag the day on which the discussion came before that body



as to whether or not the government of Germany would reimburse the Kaiser for all the palaces and property within and around the palaces that had been taken away from him. For your information let me say here, the Kaiser was the owner of fourteen palaces in Germany, each palace maintaining a large retinue of servants and surrounded by spacious grounds. the care of each costing thousands of dollars each year. It is said the Kaiser visited some of those palaces once every four or five years; still the enormous expense of maintenance went on.

The principal palace is in Potsdam, which I visited, devoting nearly a whole day to looking over this most wonderful structure and what it held within it. Potsdam is about a twenty-two mile drive over beautiful, spacious, well-kept boulevards from Berlin. The grounds surrounding the palace at Potsdam are extensive, containing beautiful shrubbery and flower beds, so well kept and preserved that it is a picture of coloring in nature never to be forgotten. I would not even attempt—because I could not—to describe the beauty of the interior of this house of royalty. No ordinary individual can describe, except faintly, the wonderful paintings and decorations and the massive gold and silver furnishings in the over one hundred large rooms, spacious halls and reception parlors, and let me say to you here, that no matter what else they may say about “Kaiser Bill” he surely had the real artistic temperament, because I have seen and visited the palaces of royalty in France, England, Austria, Holland and Italy, but none of them can compare, in my humble judgment, with the beauty and artistic make-up of the royal palace in Potsdam. One of the large rooms is called the crystal room, the ceiling of which is thatched with jewels such as emeralds, crystals, rubies and many other kinds of precious stones, which I am unable to describe and the names of some of which I could not possibly pronounce. It was a glittering mass, making the ceiling appear as if covered with diamonds. The cost of the work is impossible to determine, as is also the value, but suffice to say, the Kaiser, and his predecessors, stopped at nothing in the way of cost in satisfying their hunger for beauty and luxury, the Hohenzollerns desiring to lead and excell all other European royal families in the splendor of their surroundings.

The palace today is a museum owned by the government and visitors are allowed to visit all the rooms with the exception of those that were the private sleeping quarters of the Kaiser. Most of the furnishings have been retained.

Downtown in Berlin is the palace of the crown prince, now an art gallery. Bear in mind that in each of those palaces, particularly in Potsdam, there are large-sized art galleries containing pictures by the great masters of the world, the price of each one running into hundreds of thousands of dollars, as none but the best were given space on the walls of the palace in Potsdam, and some of the others, and this has been going on for generations, each heir to the throne adding the rarest works of art that could be procured. So you, my dear readers, can just imagine what it cost to support royalty in Germany, although the country was exceptionally prosperous.

On this particular day, mentioned above, the Reichstag had before it the question of reimbursing the Kaiser for the palaces, with their valuable furnishings, which were taken away from him and which he claims as his private property. The people, on the other hand, claim that this property was acquired through money drawn from the funds of the state. Don't forget that throughout Germany there were fourteen of those pal-



aces, each surrounded by thousands of acres of valuable land and immense forests preserved for the Kaiser so that he and his friends, invited from other countries, could there do their heavy game shooting and hunting.

I think the estimated value of the property of the Kaiser, as mentioned above, was somewhere in the neighborhood of \$500,000,000. I talked freely with the Labor men because, to me, it seemed repugnant, after all the misery brought upon the world by the Kaiser, that anyone should even consider giving him the large sum of money demanded. I had an idea that he should be pretty well pleased that the Allies did not demand that he be executed, yet, lo and behold! when the vote was taken in the Reichstag it was in favor of reimbursing the Kaiser for this property. The Labor group, however, were successful in attaching an amendment to the bill calling for approval of the act by the people through a referendum.

There are five or six different parties in the Reichstag. The Labor group did not favor the bill, but Labor does not have a majority over the others, although it has the largest individual number of any group. When the amendment was voted on by the people, a few weeks later, nearly 90 per cent of the people voted against reimbursement, killing the matter for the time being. The royalists, or friends of the Kaiser, however, have the right to re-introduce the bill in the Reichstag and they have the right to pass it and it may become a law if they have sufficient votes, without again referring it to the people. It is safe to say, however, as a result of the tremendous majority against it that the German parliamentarians will hesitate before going any further on the subject.

Peter Grassman, a member of the Reichstag, a great Labor man and a lovable character, whom I met in El Paso when he was fraternal delegate from the German Trade Union Movement to the American Federation of Labor convention in 1924, took charge of me and introduced me to many of the leaders of the Reichstag, showing me everything worth seeing and with his secretary, who acted as interpreter, showed me around the city of Berlin, took me to dinner that evening and, later on, to the theatre.

With the opportunity of meeting those people and my weakness for asking questions, I was able to get a great deal of information which I might not have obtained had I gone to Germany without knowing any one there. As in Vienna, through some friends I was able to get a general knowledge of conditions, so it was in Berlin.

The Trade Union Movement had gone back somewhat as to conditions, but it still maintains its eight-hour day although it has lost some in wages. However, they are all holding together first class, are sound and progressive and there is no question in my mind, as years go on, but what Labor will be the great directing force in the government of Germany.

Berlin has many splendid cafes and rathskellers, something like what we had in this country some years ago. Night life in Berlin is second to none in the world; people seemed to have money and seemed to be enjoying themselves; the theatres and amusement houses were filled to overflowing. Americans are just beginning this year to visit Berlin, since the war. All countries in Europe cater to the patronage of the American tourists because of the money they spend, but, unlike some of the other countries in Europe, Germany is not depending on the spendings of tourists, but is going along building up its fences and industrially is gaining month after month. It is nothing unusual to find a man working as a porter in a hotel who had been doing a successful business before the war.



While the German gold mark is now stabilized at 14 cents, the billions of marks that were issued during the war are disowned by the government and the Germans who had government bonds lost nearly all they had. It is needless to say also that hundreds of families lost the flower of their flock. There are also many cripples, but it seems to me that Germany, with its advanced medical training, its great hospitals and public institutions, is taking care of those injured in the war better than any other country, and I am satisfied, better than we are in this country with the exception of the fact that we are paying more in dollars and cents to our disabled veterans.

I don't think Germany is hiding anything so as to endeavor to avoid payment of her debt to the allied countries. I don't think there is any war-like spirit existing amongst the masses of the German people, regardless of what might have been in the years that are past. I don't think there is any danger of there being another war from the German end of the game. I don't think Germany wants anything else except to be given a chance to recover and repay, and the great masses of German working people are just as much pleased, as we are, that the great war machine of Bismarck and Kaiser William is destroyed. While they are still proud of their country—as they have reason to be—naturally they hold some feelings against the countries that overpowered them in the war, but, in the main, there is no serious bitterness amongst the people of Germany against our country except that which may be found in those who trail along with royalty.

In my judgment, the future of German industrially, economically and scientifically is assured, and I think they are bound to lead the world in years to come. Their only serious competitor, from a business standpoint, is America.

(To be continued next month)



### ***"Ambulance Chasers" Are Unscrupulous***

St. Louis, Missouri.—"Ambulance chasers" opposed popular approval of the Missouri workmen's compensation act and now appeal to labor unions to employ them as their counsel before the Workmen's Compensation Commission.

The Central Trades and Labor Union warns affiliates to beware of these shifty lawyers, who would create the belief that attorneys are necessary to secure compensation.

"The rules of the commission are so simple that it will not be necessary for injured workers to employ legal counsel except in rare cases. The commission will then supply legal aid without cost to the workers," the central body says.

"The fundamental purpose of workmen's compensation laws is to get away from the old method of employing attorneys in expensive court proceedings."—News Letter.

### ***Charity Pays Bills for Injured Workers***

New York—Many workmen's compensation cases in hospitals are being paid for by charity instead of by insurance companies or the employers, said Assemblyman Hackenberg, a member of the Joint Legislative Committee of the New York Industrial Survey Commission.

Mr. Hackenberg said the commission is considering a bill which would force insurers to shoulder the burden now imposed upon charity.—News Letter.



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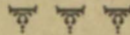
(Continued from front cover)

take this means, through the columns of our Journal, of calling to our entire membership's attention the section in the Constitution pertaining to the bookkeeping department, both for the benefit of local unions and their membership and for the benefit of the International Union.

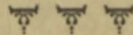
As General Auditor I have tried for over twenty years to get the Constitution lived up to in the various local unions, and I am now making a further effort to have everything as near perfect as it possibly can be in every local union, and for every local union to comply with the Constitution and every section therein.

I now have an assistant, Brother Eddy Meyers, who is the assistant to the General Auditor, and work will be carried on to enforce the Constitution for efficiency and accuracy by my assistant, Brother Meyers, and myself, for the benefit of the International Union, the local unions, their officers and entire membership.

GEORGE WM. BRIGGS,  
General Auditor.



**S**TAND BACK of your business agent when you know that he has worked faithfully for your union. Too many times, someone looking for his job—after it has started to pay a decent salary—will circulate stories about him, and tell how much better they could carry on the work. Sometimes this comes from a member who had to be driven into the organization by that business agent. To allow such a man to be defeated easily is a poor way to pay and appreciate long and tried services. Often through lack of thought and attendance at a meeting a man is elected in the other's place that the union may have much to regret in putting there. Just watch your old-timer and stay with him as long as he delivers the goods. On the other hand, if he gets lazy, will not work, and sort of treats the job as though he were pensioned, you can get rid of him, and no one will blame you. The best interest of the union is the first thing to be considered.



**T**HE PRESIDENT of each local union affiliated with our International Union has a very important duty to perform with regard to the bond of the secretary-treasurer. He should see that this bond is filled out and signed on time and sent to the bonding company. Be sure, also, to have the recording secretary read it at the regular meeting. Doing this conscientiously will encourage your membership to go on with their good work when they know that the funds are being protected. This bond should be taken out no matter how large or small the treasury may be. It shows to the membership, too, that the president is on the job not only to preside over the meeting, but to carry out every part of his obligation while he is in the office. Have your trustees go over the books at regular intervals and immediately make a report to the meeting. If anything is found to be wrong, they can report it to the president, and he call a board meeting at once to take the matter up and adjust it.



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STABLEMEN and HELPERS  
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